

Washington, DC -- U.S. Representative Michael A. Arcuri (D-Utica) announced today that he has secured over \$2.3 million in congressionally-directed funding for critical U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects to reduce flooding in the Mohawk Valley.

“The towns and villages in Mohawk Valley flood plains know all too well how devastating flooding is for homes and businesses,” Arcuri said. “I am pleased to announce funding that will enable the Army Corps of Engineers to continue, and in some important cases fully complete, critical projects to reduce flooding in local areas. Key ice blocking projects in Fulmer Creek and Moyer Creek will be completed because of this funding – making sure that the residents along those creeks have better flood protection and security. I’m glad to see hard-earned taxpayer dollars return home to help fund projects that will keep homes and businesses safe from flooding.”

**\$600,000 – Fulmer Creek in Mohawk:** The project area lies along the lower section of Fulmer Creek, a tributary of the Mohawk River. Frequent flooding occurs along Fulmer Creek in the Village of Mohawk due to flows which exceed the existing channel’s capacity. The heavy flows that occur in combination with ice jams that form at river crossings cause extensive flooding in developed areas. The principal damage areas lie on the right bank of the waterway and include many residential and commercial structures. These funds will be used to construct an ice control structure at an upstream location, as well as stream-bank restoration and other flood control measures. Funding secured by Arcuri will fully fund the construction phase of the project.

**\$1.5 million – Steele Creek in Ilion:** The study area lies along the lower section of Steele Creek, a tributary of the Mohawk River. Frequent flooding occurs along Steele Creek, in the Village of Ilion due to flows, which exceed the existing channel’s capacity. The heavy flows occur as a result of ice jams, which form at the bridges. The principal damage areas lie on the right bank of the waterway and include many residential and commercial structures. Federal dollars made available will fund the remainder of the design phase and partially fund the construction phase of the project to construct an ice control structure and removal of the Ogee Weir (small overflow-type dam commonly used to raise the level of a river or stream).

“These streams have been problematic in the past as both streams flash flood quickly and are dangerous,” said Frank Spatto, Town of German Flatts Supervisor. This funding is extremely important to keep flood prevention projects moving forward. By following through with the Army Corps of Engineers’ study we’ll be able to get ice control structures in place and this flooding under control. Out of all of the grant money we get, this will have the biggest impact on the life and safety of local residents. I’ve been after this project for 27 or 28 years, we’ve been working

with the Corps for better than 9 years to get this done and it is great that Mr. Arcuri came through to help us finish. My hat is off to Arcuri – he just took over and already is coming through for us.”

**\$250,000 – Moyer Creek in Frankfort:** The study area lies along the lower section of Moyer Creek, a tributary of the Mohawk River. Frequent flooding occurs along Moyer Creek in the study area due to flows, which exceed the existing channel’s capacity. The heavy flows occur as a result of ice jams, which form at the historic arch bridges. The principal damage areas lie on the right bank of the waterway and include many residential and commercial structures. The funds will be used for the construction of ice control piers just south of Hwy 5-south. These piers will be secured through the bottom of the creek channel to the bedrock. Funding secured by Arcuri will fully fund the construction phase of the project.

“The Town of Frankfort appreciates Congressman Arcuri’s efforts in securing this funding - a major factor in moving this project forward and hopefully, bringing the same to a positive conclusion,” said Joseph P. Kinney, Town of Frankfort Supervisor.

The funding secured by Arcuri is part of the fiscal year 2008 Energy and Water Appropriations Act, which was approved by the House of Representatives earlier today and will be considered by the Senate in the coming weeks.

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